

DEMETER

Women's News of the Monterey Bay Area

VOLUME 3 NO. 7

OCTOBER, 1980

Presented by Demeter Productions

June Millington in Concert October 4

Demeter Productions will present June Millington in concert Saturday, October 4 at 8 p.m. in the Monterey Peninsula College Music Hall.

June is an exciting and versatile performer with a strong background in women's music. She has performed in women's bands for over 10 years, including the all-women rock group of the 60's, *Fanny*.

June has also toured extensively with Cris Williamson and has just returned from a nationwide tour with Holly Near.

In addition to her own album, *Ladies on the Stage*, recorded for United Artists, June has performed on numerous Olivia recordings and has shown her talents as producer on Mary Watkin's album, *Something Movin*, and Cris' album, *Strange Paradise*. She is currently producing an album for Holly Near.

This will be June's first appearance on the Peninsula and it promises to be a very special evening of women's

music. Joining June for part of the set will be special guests Iris Dean on electric guitar and Jeanne Hangauer and Eva Nicholson, two Bay Area women who will help out with percussion. Jeanne and Eva previously performed on the Peninsula as part of the women's band, *Loomis Rumor*. The audience is also invited to join in on percussion.

Sandra Faulkner will provide American Sign Language interpretation for the concert. Free child care is provided with advance registration only, and the auditorium is wheel chair accessible.

Tickets are \$3.50 in advance or \$4 at the door and are on sale at The Open Book, Pacific Grove; Do Re Mi Records, Carmel; Demeter Resources, Pacific Grove; and Cymbaline Records in Santa Cruz.

For child care reservations or more information, call 659-3752 or 375-5629.



Graphic by Kate Elvin

Women's Fair To Be Held Oct. 25 in Salinas

Women For Women of Salinas will present this year's Women's Fair on Saturday, Oct. 25 at the Performing Arts Theater at Hartnell College, Salinas. The theme of the fair is "Images of Women in the 80's" and will offer many excellent and practical workshops.

All participants must register. This can be done in advance by picking up a registration form at Hartnell or can be done the day of the fair. If desired, participants can also receive college credit for attending. A \$5 donation is requested, which covers lunch. Checks may be made payable to Women For Women. Proceeds from the fair will be given to the Salinas Community Women's Center.

Registration is from 8 to 9 a.m. Morning workshops will include:

(continued on page 7)

In Pacific Grove

17th Street Women's Building To Hold Open House Oct. 31

The new 17th Street Women's Professional Building will hold an open house/Halloween celebration on Oct. 31 from 4-8 p.m. The office building is located at 229 17th Street in Pacific Grove and is shared by Kate Elvin Visual Arts; Katherine Stoner, attorney; Edie Broeckelman, accountant; and Demeter Resources.

Demeter Resources has moved from our previous location at 591 Lighthouse. Our new office hours are Monday through Wednesday, noon to 3 p.m. Our phone number remains the same: 375-5629.

Everyone is invited to join in the celebration, costumed or otherwise, and meet the women of the 17th Street Building over wine and cheese.

An Editorial

Women, Sexism and Drug Abuse

No, this is not about heroin, cocaine, or grass. It is about Darvon, Valium and Phenobarbital. More people die from and are addicted to prescription drugs than non-prescription drugs. Most of the victims are women.

While working at the U.S. Justice Department in Washington, D.C., this summer, I learned of a phenomenon "jokingly" called the "black negligee" syndrome by some government officials. This refers to those women, sometimes wearing negligees, who come into the hospital emergency room or coroner's office because they have taken an overdose of pills.

I tried to get those same government officials to understand that because this often happens when women are in their late 40s, they are sending out distress signals. They feel that they no longer have a place in a society that has only two accepted roles for women — that of mother and sex object. They are feeling left out of society so they make a last attempt to get some recognition or they give up all hope and take an overdose of pills.

Not only do more women than men take prescription drug overdoses, women are more often addicted to prescription drugs. I have heard horror stories of women being prescribed Valium after a crisis in their lives, then years later still taking the drug.

Most physicians simply do not have adequate training in pharmacology. (Pharmacists are probably better sources for drug information.) These physicians do not realize the addicting potential of certain drugs and the dangers of using tranquilizers to treat anxiety associated with usual stress. Since women go to physicians more often than men, they are more often the victims of this ignorance.

I cannot help but feel, in addition, that physicians are just keeping women quiet. How much easier it must be for them to give a woman a prescription and send her off than to work with her in deciding on the best short and long-term therapy for a particular problem.

The Food and Drug Administration is taking some steps to educate physicians. In the meantime we can do two things: work for an increase in the number of options for women and educate ourselves about the drugs our physicians want to prescribe for us.

With increased options for women, we will not feel that our lives are over at 45. In addition, when a physician wants to prescribe a drug, we should learn the short-term and long-term side effects, when the drug should be taken and for how long. If your physician does not know, find another; and in the meantime, ask your pharmacist.

—Lois Van Beers

Notes From Demeter

Demeter Resources' first open board meeting took place September 11 and was devoted primarily to paperwork required by state and federal agencies relative to our application for tax exempt status. The other item on the agenda concerned the formulation of *Demeter's* policy on the sponsorship of athletic teams and is described elsewhere in this issue.

Three non-board members were in attendance and had valuable comments to make during the period reserved for such communications.

The next board meeting has been set for Wednesday, October 8. You are welcome to attend. If there is a particular subject you want discussed, just turn in a written request a week before the meeting.

We have moved into our new office in the Seventeenth Street Women's Professional Building. Office hours are: Monday-Wednesday noon to 3. Stop by and say hello. Our phone number is still 375-5629.

* * * *

Thank you to the women who donated their time and skill to putting on the Women's Dance. The contribution was greatly needed and appreciated.

* * * *

If you have some free time around the end of the month, we could put it to use. Each month we must collate *Demeter* by hand. Four separate pages have to be put together for each of our 500 copies, plus envelopes stuffed for the 250 that go out in the mail. It's a big job and a tedious one. If you'd like to help, even for an hour, your efforts would be appreciated. Give us a call around the end of the month and we'll know which day we need the help.

New Subscribers

Thanks and welcome to our new subscribers:

Liz Cacas
Connie Boggess
Rosann Wisman
Bettina Aptheker

Editors:
Production:
Graphics:
Reporters:

JT Mason
Joan Weiner
Barbara Bastian
Janie Forrest
Diana Skiles
Vicki Smith

Debi Busman
Maureen McEvoy

Polly Parker
Sandra McKee

Demeter is a feminist publication designed to keep women informed of pertinent issues. Contributions of articles, graphics and money are welcome. Subscriptions are \$3 for six months or \$6 for one year. Mail check or money order to *Demeter*, P.O. Box 1661, Monterey, CA 93940. Editorial office is located at 229 Seventeenth St., Pacific Grove, CA 93950. Phone number is (408) 375-5629.

Letters to the Editor

Anonymous Is A Woman

Editor:

And so she said to herself as she dug through her piles of poetry to find "that one:" "go ahead — send it in to *Demeter*. Remember the poems they published several months ago from the Lone Lesberado? She used her initials. You can use yours."

Who do you think will really care? Do you really feel you are that important? But you do want people to care about your poetry. Don't you?

Go ahead, stick your nose out there and try not to be so anonymous in life.

EJA
Monterey

Good Vibrations

Editor:

Each time I visit your area, I am impressed by the good vibes and solid achievements of the women I meet. *Demeter* has also been a drawing card for me as I was thinking about relocating to the Monterey area.

It is so very important for me to have access to local media which reflect women's culture and women's values, diverse as they are.

So this letter is also to say thanks for just being, and to encourage you to go on with this important communication work. It does make a difference, and that difference is vital.

Suzanne Judith
Oakland

Anderson's Record — Another Opinion

Editor:

I am writing in response to the letter by Berit Taggart, campaign outreach coordinator for the Anderson for President campaign. The letter urged support for Anderson due in part to his consistent support of women's issues.

Although John Anderson is an early supporter of the ERA, I do not feel that he has consistently and vigorously supported all women's issues with an unyielding record.

SANenews, a national newsletter on battered women, is conducting interviews with each presidential candidate regarding his views on domestic violence. Although Anderson appeared quite concerned with the issue, he voted against last year's domestic

violence legislation (HR 12299), on May 23, 1978. A staff member indicated he was for it but voted against since it came up under suspension of the rules.

The following portion of the SANenews provides insight as well:

"This year, Anderson (who was not one of 105 co-sponsors of this year's domestic violence bill, HR 2977) was not present when that bill was voted on in the House on December 12, 1979, where it passed by a vote of 292 to 106; he was one of 35 House members who did not vote on the bill. Only four of those not voting had registered the position they would have taken had they been present to vote (by 'pairs'), and Anderson was not one of them."

(SANenews Vol. 1, No. 10 [July 1980]. SANenews is a publication of the Community Health Center, Inc., of Middletown, CT.)

Sheri L. Perlman
Attorney at Law

View From Copenhagen

Editor:

On the flight home from Copenhagen I was delighted to connect with another *Demeter* subscriber/fan. We had both attended the United Nations Mid-Decade Conference for Women. She's Patricia Schroeder of Santa Cruz.

Ms. Schroeder said she was going to write an article about the conference for *Demeter*. Since our experiences were so different, it occurred to me that you might be receptive to more than one impression of the Copenhagen experience.

I attended the Conference for Women as an official observer for a UN non-governmental organization, the International Association for Religious Freedom, and co-led two workshops on Women and Religion at the Forum.

I went with a press pass and am writing articles for several publications around the country. Needless to say, I am very active in women's issues and right now filled with the Copenhagen experience.

I hope you'll be receptive.

Rosemary Matson
Carmel Valley

(Ms. Schroeder's article appears elsewhere in this issue. Look for Ms. Matson's impressions in November.)

'New Christian Right' in Pacific Grove

Editor:

It was recently brought to public attention that Pacific Grove houses the administrative offices of an organization that is part of a movement generally termed the "New Christian Right." The organization is Christian Voice.

Christian Voice received recognition here when a local newspaper ran a front page story reporting that Dan Rather and his *60 Minutes* crew had come to PG to talk to and film CV representatives.

The article was an "objective" journalistic account of the nature and policies of the group — so objective that the fact that Christian Voice is an extremely anti-feminist, anti-homosexual, anti-liberal group was reported like the details of a pleasant excursion taken by a local Girl Scout troop.

I wanted to add an opinion to this purportedly innocent reporting.

The facts are not hard to find: coverage of this movement has occurred in many major magazines and papers over the last year.

The "New Christian Right" is emerging in this country as a potentially influential political lobbying organization. Hiding behind the rhetoric of fundamentalist religion, they are decidedly political: they take ultra-conservative positions on nearly every issue and piece of legislation.

Some of the stands and strategies of Christian Voice specifically:

—They are militantly anti-homosexual. Christian Voice has been instrumental in challenging the gay rights campaign for federal protection of jobs for homosexuals. They were also active in rallying behind the Briggs referendum of 1978 (to bar homosexual teachers.)

—CV opposes abortion, federal and local spending on abortion, and the ERA. The New Christian Right at large has succeeded in blocking passage of the ERA in 15 states, and disrupted the White House Conference on the Family with conservative demands around preserving the family. They are also lobbying for legislation that would make abortion unconstitutional.

—CV supports ultra-conservative policies on significant issues such as

Continued on page 11

Community News and Events

October Concerts

Demeter Productions will present June Millington Saturday, October 4, 8 p.m. at the Monterey Peninsula College Music Hall. Tickets are \$3.50, \$4.50 at the door. Free child care will be available by reservation. Sandra Faulkner will interpret for the deaf. For more information, call 659-3752 or 375-5629.

Holly Near will appear at the Cabrillo College Main Theater in Aptos on Sunday, October 5 at 7 and 9:30 p.m. in a special fund raising concert for WomensWorks. Tickets are \$5.50-\$7.50 sliding scale donation. Call in advance for free child care registration, 462-2363.

Margie Adam will perform at Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley in a presentation for the California Women's Political Caucus. The concert will be held Friday, October 10 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$7. Child care and interpretation for the deaf will be provided. For more information, call (415) 832-6005 or 655-0364.

YWCA

Women's Center

Women's Evening — Friday, Oct. 24, 7:30 p.m. at the YWCA, 276 Eldorado, Monterey.

Judy Roth is coordinating a Cultural Awareness Project and will show a film as part of that project on Oct. 22. For time and location, call the YWCA at 649-0834.

The Women's Center is offering a weekly support group entitled "Women Changing" for women going through changes and transitions — career, education, financial, separation, divorce, widowhood, personal conflict, etc. Group facilitator will be Diana Case. The group will meet Thursdays, 6-8 p.m., Oct. 23-Nov. 20 at the Y. Cost is \$35 for five sessions. For more information or to register, call 649-0834.

Women Against Domestic Violence

WADV will hold its general meeting Oct. 8 at 6:30 p.m. at the Y. Advocacy Training will be held Oct. 1, 15, 22 and 29.

For further information on any of the above, call the Y at 649-0834.

Lesbian Rap Group

A lesbian rap group meets Fridays at 7:30. For location or more information, call 372-1452 or 624-2133.

Sexual Abuse Rap Group

Those interested in forming a rap group for women who were sexually abused as children or young adults can call Barbara evenings at 649-0757. All inquiries and involvement will be strictly confidential.

Monterey County Commission on the Status of Women

The Commission will meet Wednesday, Oct. 1, 7:30 p.m. at the Salinas Courthouse.

There will be an open forum for local women's groups and individuals to address the commission on the needs of women in this area on Thursday, Oct. 9 at 7:30 p.m. in the Supervisors' Chambers at the Salinas Courthouse. Women wishing to be put on the agenda should notify the Commission immediately.

The Commission is looking for women who are interested in working on a task force to plan activities for Women's History Week next March. There will be an organizational meeting for the task force Wednesday, Oct. 22, 7 p.m. at the Salinas Courthouse.

For more information, call 372-8026 or 443-1240.

Monterey Law Center

The Monterey Law Center is sponsoring two community legal education programs in October. "Buying or Selling Your Own Home" will be offered Wednesday, Oct. 15 from 7-10 p.m. at the Salinas Community Center.

"Legal Aspects of Abortion and Abortion Funding" is the title of a panel discussion which will be held Thursday, Oct. 23, 7-10 p.m. in Room 91 of Monterey High School.

On the panel are Bev Harrison, president of the local chapter of NOW; Michelle Welsh, Esq., of Nolan, Hammerly, Etienne, and Hoss; and Rosanne Wiseman of Planned Parenthood.

Donations will be requested at the door to cover program expenses. For more information or to reserve a place, call 373-3301.

Family Resource Center

The Family Resource Center offers a series of classes for parents on Mondays, 2-3 p.m. at the Center, 500 Hilby, Seaside. Classes for October include: Stress, Oct. 6; You Are Your Greatest Asset, Oct. 13.

For more information, call 394-4622.

Antioch University Monterey

Antioch offers a workshop entitled "Meditation and Visualization" with Laura Pelnick on Saturday, Oct. 11, 7:30-10 p.m. at the university, 690 Pine Ave., Pacific Grove. Fee will be on a sliding scale. Call 649-4949 to register.

Childbirth Education League

The Childbirth Education League of the Monterey Peninsula sponsors a class on nutrition for pregnant couples Monday, Oct. 20, 7:30 p.m. at the Monterey Public Library. For more information, call 899-3512.

National Women's Political Caucus

The Caucus will meet Thursday, Oct. 16, 7:30 p.m. but location had not been determined at press time. Call 373-5193 for information on meeting location.

Book Signing

Local Gestalt therapist and feminist Judy Tatelbaum's book, *The Courage to Grieve*, will be released this month and will be available at The Open Book in Pacific Grove and the Thunderbird Bookstore in the Barnyard. The book's subtitle, *Creative Living, Recovery, and Growth Through Grief*, gives the flavor of the book. An autograph signing party will be held at the Thunderbird on Sunday, Nov. 2.

Monterey Museum of Art

"The Gene McComas Retrospective" will be on display at the Monterey Peninsula Museum of Art through Nov. 2.

Ms. McComas lived on the Peninsula for many years. Her work has been widely exhibited, and has been compared favorably with that of Gauguin.

Community News and Events

UFM

A one-day workshop entitled "Mothers Living Separate From Their Children" will be led by Diana Case, Saturday, Oct. 25 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. There is an increasing number of women who are living separate from their children. Often these women find it difficult to deal with the unique feelings and challenges, both within themselves and in relating to others. This group will focus on acceptance, support, and positive means of coping and growing.

Ms. Case will also lead a one-evening workshop entitled "Separation, Divorce and Personal Growth" on Thursday, Oct. 16, from 7 to 10 p.m. The group will provide an opportunity for participants to become more aware of the positive aspects of their situation, explore creative possibilities, and tap personal strengths for growth and healing during the transition. The fee for each workshop is \$3. Both will be held at MPC. For more information, call 373-2641 or 375-6142.

Family Planning Education Council

The Family Planning Education Council will offer a class entitled "Issues in Male Sexuality" on Friday, Oct. 3, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Salinas Community Center. The workshop seeks to provide a comprehensive view of the sexual role of the American male by exploring the historical, social, and physical aspects that define him, and to provide insights into various male attitudes and behavior toward birth control, pregnancy, abortion, and sterilization. Fee: \$15. For more information, call Ann Preibe at 758-9861.

Women in Search

A class taught by June Schwartz entitled "In Search of Self" will meet Tuesday evenings in October, 7-28, and Saturday, Oct. 21 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Monterey Peninsula College. Call Ms. Schwartz at 624-2457 for more information.

Dance Concert

The Monterey Peninsula College Dance Department will present its 1980 Fall Dance Concert Friday and Saturday, Oct. 24 and 25, 8 p.m. in the MPC Theater. For more information, call 646-4220.

NOW

The Salinas chapter of the National Organization for Women will meet Tuesday, Oct. 14, 7:30 p.m. at the Salinas Women's Center. The program will be "What is Happening to Women Next? — Globally" with Patricia Schroeder, who recently returned from the International Women's Conference in Copenhagen.

Black Lesbians To Meet Oct. 17 in SF

"Becoming Visible" is the theme for the First Black Lesbian Conference to be held Oct. 17-19 in the San Francisco Bay Area.

A conference press release states:

"As Black lesbians, along with all other women of color and white women, we have been struggling for many years for the same goal, 'to become visible.' In our own communities and in areas throughout the Western regional states, voices, screams and fears of Black lesbians are not being heard; our concerns and ideologies are not being supported. This conference gives us the opportunity to say that we are indeed present and struggling with the total lesbian community in fighting the battles of sexism, racism, classism and homophobia. Our purpose is not to separate the fight from the struggles of other women. Our intent is to create a workable network and support system for Black lesbian women."

Workshops are planned dealing with business and politics; lesbians and the law; Black women and feminism; women and violence, interracial relationships, and other topics.

M. Lambert-van Buuren of Monterey will perform "Morning Dance" and "Primal Roots," two dances which she choreographed, at the conference.

For more information, call (415) 285-7263 or 540-0493.

Holly Near Concert Oct. 5 at Cabrillo

WomensWorks Productions presents Holly Near in concert Sunday, Oct. 5 at the Cabrillo College Main Theater.

Holly sang to a full house at the Civic Auditorium last fall while on tour for a Nuclear Free Future and drew an enthusiastic crowd at the Pacific Grove Middle School in March.

She continues to be a favorite, combining feminist politics with her show stopping vocals. Audiences leave her performance warmed by her humor, refreshed by the love and beauty in her music and just plain feeling good.

Shows are scheduled for 7 and 9:30 with pianist Adrienne Torf opening. Tickets are available at sliding scale prices, \$5.50, \$6.50 and \$7.50 at The Wizard of Aud, Cabrillo College and UCSC box offices in Santa Cruz, The Open Book in PG, and Do Re Mi Music in The Barnyard.

Sign language interpretation will be provided. There will be seating for those in wheelchairs, and free child care will be available. Arrangements for these services must be made in advance by calling 462-2363.

WomensWorks is a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing high quality women artists to the area



and to training women in technical theater skills. Tickets are tax deductible.

Local and National News Briefs

With a Little Help From Our Friends

Women who have a reassuring companion with them during childbirth have an easier time delivering and are more affectionate to their infants than women who go it alone.

That's according to a study conducted at the Social Security Hospital in Guatemala City by doctors from Case Western Reserve University.

In the study, 20 women were accompanied during childbirth by untrained strangers who rubbed the women's back, held their hands, talked to them and acted as friends. Another 20 women received traditional delivery care without the help of a companion.

The researchers found that the average length of labor for the group who had "friends" helping during childbirth was nine hours, compared to an average labor of 19 hours for the group of mothers who had no friends helping them out.

The researchers concluded that a reassuring face during labor calms anxieties and may be an easy way to reduce complications during delivery for both mothers and babies.

—Her Say

Women and Doctors

Just released results of a conference on women's attitudes towards doctors held last winter have revealed that women aren't too happy with the medical profession.

In a turnaround of sorts, the New York County Medical Society sponsored the conference last January specifically to ask the question: "Is there an anti-doctor feeling among women today, and if so, why?"

Dr. Shepard Aronson, chair of the Public Relations Committee of the Medical Society, reports the women attending the conference responded with a resounding "yes" to that question.

Women representing the National Council of Women in the US; the League of Women Voters; the National Organization for Women; and the National Women's Health Network cited the following reasons for distrust of doctors:

The women said insufficient information about diagnoses is given in hard-to-understand medical jargon; that alternatives to mastectomies are rarely mentioned; that second and

third opinions on diagnoses are often not recommended by doctors; that valium is prescribed routinely for women instead of trying to get to the root of a woman's anxiety; and that more explanations about the actual effects of drugs are needed.

The women also said that doctors know little about women's changing attitudes toward their health, and recommended that the medical profession read *Our Bodies, Ourselves*, a self-help manual put out by the Boston Women's Collective.

Aronson said that doctors attending the conference were — in his word — "upset" about what they heard and ordered copies of the resulting conference report.

—Her Say

Legal Update

—Sixteen-year-old Andrena Appleby lost the first skirmish in her legal battle to be the first girl to play on the Los Altos High School football team when a U.S. District Court refused to order the coach to let her play. The coach had claimed in a written affidavit to the court that the five-foot-three, 135 pound junior was too small to play on the team.

—Representative Elizabeth Holtzman won the Democratic senatorial nomination in New York, defeating consumer advocate Bess Myerson.

—Governor Jerry Brown signed a bill that bars law enforcement officers from requiring sexual assault victims to take lie detector tests. The new law becomes effective January 1. Many police departments in California have routinely asked sexual assault victims to take lie detector tests as a prerequisite to filing a police report.

—The House of Representatives gave final approval on a bill requiring that infant formula companies meet uniform safety and nutritional standards in their manufacture of baby formula. The bill now requires the President's signature.

—Her Say

New Use For Vitamin E

Vitamin E could soon be used in a new way.

A study published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* suggests the so-called "energy" vitamin may make breast lumps go away.

Dr. Robert London of Baltimore's Sinai Hospital reportedly treated 26 women patients who were suffering from fibrocystic breast disease. The lumps caused by this disease are not cancerous, but stand a good chance of becoming so.

The physician found, after giving his patients Vitamin E treatments, that ten of the 26 patients responded well, another 12 had fair improvement, and only four patients failed to get somewhat better. A good response, JAMA says, meant that the painful lumps went away.

Dr. London is reportedly recommending that women with painful breast lumps take the Vitamin E treatments. He says there are no side effects.

—Her Say

\$\$ and Diapers — Status Symbols of the Future

Babies could be the status symbol of the future, according to Temple University researcher Dr. Joseph McFalls.

McFalls, a demographer, says that's because the prices of having and raising a baby are rising so fast, that by the 1990's, only the rich will be able to afford them.

The demographer says, by the century's end, "Dollars and diapers will be the signs of the good life."

—Her Say

Playwrighting Contest

The One Act Theater Company of San Francisco is now accepting entries for the Mortimer Fleishhacker Playwrighting Contest for best new one acts by women.

The One Act Theater Company is the only company in the nation devoted exclusively to the development of the one act play as a unique theatrical form. The contest for women playwrights is designed to bring national prominence to both women playwrights and to the one act play.

Plays submitted must be in the one act form, no longer than 60 minutes, written by an American woman, typed, bound with a folder with author's name, address and phone number on the title page, and accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope.

The winning plays will receive full productions either in One Act Theater's main stage or in One Act Two Playwrights' Theater. Awards will be announced in June of next year.

—Her Say

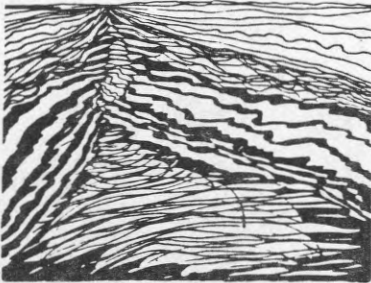
Women's Fair —

(continued from page 1)

Transitions: How to Deal With and What to Expect From Life's Changes; Networking for Friendship; Body Images (movement); Shedding the Should and Ought To's; and, Minority Women: Creating Positive Images.

Afternoon workshops will be: Older Women; Never Underestimate the Power . . .; Maintaining Long-Term Relationships; Fat is a Weighty Issue; and, White's Overcoming the Painful Effect of Racism.

Child care will be provided. Advance reservation is available by calling 758-7569.



Cultural Awareness Project at YWCA

The Cultural Awareness project has been developed to make the Y's Women's Center a focal point in the community for cultural sharing programs, and to raise consciousness about racism. This will be done through written interviews with community leaders for the Y's newsletter, films, panel discussions, speakers, workshops, and community cultural sharing events.

On October 22 the film, *Martin Luther King Jr.'s Walk From Montgomery to Memphis* will be shown along with speakers and group discussion. This will be an evening to think together about voting and the coming election. Please come and support this event. Contact the Y for the place and time.

In the middle of November an international night is planned which will be an event of cultural sharing from all over the world, including entertainment, costumes and potluck.

This project is being coordinated by Judy Roth and is being funded through individual tax deductible donations. Checks can be made to the YWCA Cultural Awareness Project.

If you have any contacts for funding sources, please contact Ms. Roth. Also, the Y is looking for interested people to help plan and implement these programs. Call them at 649-0834.

180 In Attendance

War Resisters League Holds Feminist Gathering

A Women's Gathering on Feminism, Nonviolence, and the New Militarism was sponsored by the War Resisters League-West September 5-7 at the Cazadero Music Camp in Sonoma County.

Approximately 180 women attended the gathering, spanning age differences of over 50 years and representing many organizations which have been active in the peace movement and feminism for decades.

Some workshop and discussion topics included "Nonviolent and Feminist Theory," "Political Work," "Peace Conversion," "Nonviolent Personal Defense," "Sexism, Rape, Battery and the Military Culture," "Pacifism," "Facism," "Women in Prison," and skills workshops on assertiveness, bonding, women's communities, public speaking, and burn-out.

Women were led in song and entertained by Holly Near, Robin Flower, Nancy Vogl, and Barbara Higbee. Holly Near and Karlene Faith, also of Redwood Records, led a workshop on using music as an energizer, educator and organizer.

Some focus was taken away from the issues of nonviolence and war resistance by the emphasis that grew around the differences between lesbians and heterosexual women. A spontaneous workshop called "Lesbian Dialogue" that developed out of the "Lesbianism and Nonviolence" workshop was widely attended by gay and straight women and continued to meet throughout the weekend.

Emotions ran high over this issue, with more intensity than I observed over any of the other concerns of the conference. Clearly, many women

viewed this problem as the primary focus of the gathering. For that reason, I realize it was an important part of the program. I do feel the conference was lacking in vitality and group spirit.

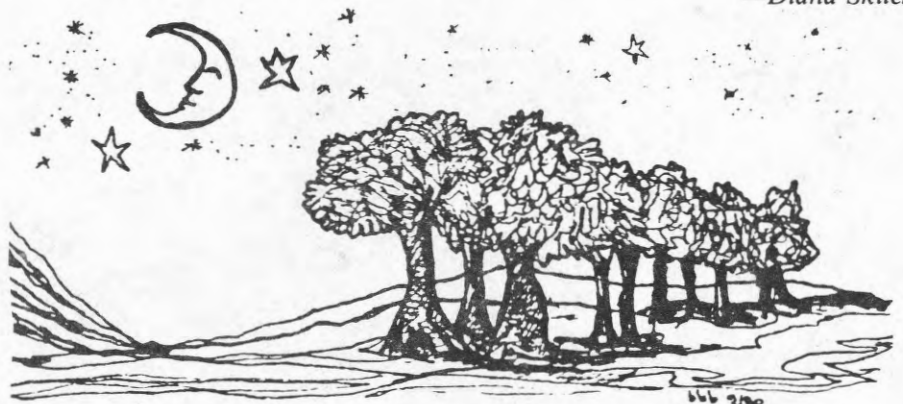
Energy seemed to sag and I felt disappointment in not experiencing the warm bond and excitement I had anticipated would come from working with a strong group of women united in a common struggle against violence, sexism and the military culture. At times I felt alienated from other women because of my personal sexual preference and experienced open hostility for which I was totally unprepared.

I am aware that in writing about this conflict I run the risk of trashing the conference and that is not my intention. There were excellent workshops and discussions. Women of strength, intelligence and hard working experience brought with them commitment to developing and sharing their special areas of involvement in the movement for nonviolence.

I bring up the lesbian/heterosexual issue because I was disturbed to see it take away from the focus on nonviolence for which all of these women had come. We need to work to break down our prejudices against each other in order to combine our efforts toward common goals.

The Lesbian Dialogue workshop was formed out of recognition of that need. At the plenary session held at the end of the gathering there was a consensus that working together must become an on-going process within each women's community and not saved to air at conferences and workshops if we are to gain as much from these gatherings as unity would allow.

—Diana Skiles



october

			1	2	3	4
			Monterey County Commission on Women meets, 7:30 p.m. Salinas Courthouse Maria Mitchell, American's first woman astronomer, 1847	My Sister's House, KAZU 90.3FM, 12:30-3 p.m.	Lesbian Rap Group meets. Issues in Male Sexuality, all day, Salinas Community Ctr	June Millington concert, MPC, 8 p.m.
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Women's music, KAZU, 1-4 p.m. Holly Near concert, Cabrillo, 7 & 9:30 p.m.	Stress class, Family Resource Center, 2-3 p.m. Swimmer Diana Nyad completes 28-mile swim around Manhattan Island in record time.	Women in Search class starts at MPC	WADV general meeting, YWCA, 6:30 p.m.	My Sister's House, KAZU, 12:30-3 Open Forum with Monterey County Commission on the Status of Women, Salinas Courthouse, 7:30 p.m.	Lesbian Rap Group meets. Margie Adam concert, UC Berkeley, 8 p.m. Maired Corrigan and Betty Williams awarded 1976 Nobel Peace Prize for halting violence in Ireland.	Meditation and Visualization, Antioch League of Women Voters garage sale, 105 17th St., PG, 10-4 p.m.
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Women's music, KAZU, 1-4 p.m.	You Are Your Greatest Asset class, Family Resource Center, 2-3 p.m.	Salinas NOW meets, 7:30 p.m.	WADV Advocacy Training Monterey Law Center workshop on buying/selling your home, Salinas Community Ctr, 7-10 p.m. 2 American women reach the summit of Annapurna, 1978	My Sister's House, KAZU, 12:30-3 p.m. NWPC meets 7:30 p.m. UFM: Separation, Divorce and Personal Growth, at MPC, 7-10 p.m.	Lesbian Rap Group meets Black Lesbian Conference, SF, Oct. 17-19	KAZU rummage sale, Caledonia Park, Pacific Grove, 9-4
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Women's music, KAZU, 1-4 p.m.	Nutrition class for pregnant couples, Monterey Library, 7:30	Plan to attend the open house of the new 17th St. Women's Professional Bldg. set for Oct. 31.	YWCA Cultural Awareness Project film WADV Advocacy Training Task Force for Women's History Week, organizational meeting, Salinas Courthouse, 7 p.m.	My Sister's House, KAZU, 12:30-3 p.m. Monterey Law Center: Workshop on Legal Aspects of Abortion, Monterey HS, 7-10 p.m. Women Changing support group begins at Y, 6-8 p.m.	Lesbian Rap Group meets Women's Evening at the Y, 7:30 p.m. Annie Edson Taylor celebrates her 43rd birthday by being the first person to attempt a barrel ride over Niagara Falls. She survives. 1901.	Women's Fair, Hartnell UFM: Mothers Living Separate From Their Children, MPC, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Women's music, KAZU, 1-4 p.m. US's first birth control clinic shut down after only 2 weeks by NYC police. Margaret Sanger and Ethel Byrne are arrested for distributing obscene material. 1916.	Is it time to renew your subscription?	Our new office hours are Monday-Wednesday, noon to 3. Sometimes we are there at other times, so give us a call before dropping by.	WADV Advocacy Training	My Sister's House, KAZU, 12:30-3 p.m.	Halloween Lesbian Rap Group meets Demeter Open House, 4-8 p.m.	

On Board the U.S.S. Norton Sound

The Navy's Lesbian Trials

In June of this year, the U.S. Navy announced that it was bringing to trial eight women sailors from the U.S.S. Norton Sound. The charge was that these sailors were lesbians and therefore were "security risks" who created "morale problems." Media coverage of the Navy's hearings has been splashy and sensational, focusing on proving or disproving individual "deviance" and blatantly reinforcing sexist, racist, and homophobic stereotypes.

As feminists, it is important that we look at the ordeal of these women from a viewpoint which examines the Navy's motivation and method of presenting their hearings. And, we need to recognize the way that publicity has been manipulated to discredit women who don't fit the traditional feminine patterns and to divide women against ourselves.

The structure of the Navy's hearings bears a chilling resemblance to the witch trials of the 14th through 16th centuries in Europe, which also targeted "deviant" women.

Twenty-four of the 61 women on the Norton Sound were originally charged with being lesbians. The charges came in part from lists circulated to the male sailors on board, asking them to check the names of the women they thought were lesbians. All of the black women aboard were accused.

The trials of these women do not stem from personal issues concerning individual deviance. The Navy's behavior seems to indicate a determined assault on hard-won affirmative action gains by using the issues of lesbianism and female sexuality to push women back into segregated roles.

The investigation was conducted by the Naval Intelligence Service, whose agents threatened potential witnesses with court martial unless they gave evidence for the prosecution. The reasoning was circular and airtight: If you won't testify, you must be one, too. So, enlisted personnel were coerced into testifying against each other and the burden of proof fell on those who were accused.

The woman who was the prosecution's primary witness became extremely upset (the newspapers reported her as hysterical) at the prospect of testifying. The ship's command ordered a psychiatric evaluation and is considering her for discharge.

Eight women were brought to trial. They were assumed to be guilty; in order to remain in the Navy they had to prove that they were heterosexual. The witches were charged with having sexual intercourse with the devil; these women were charged with having sexual intercourse with other women.

The hearings, conducted by three Naval officers, did not follow standard courtroom procedures. The Navy arbitrarily decided what evidence was admissible. The primary assumption that homosexuality was harmful to military preparedness was not allowed to be challenged. Instead, it was up to the American Civil Liberties Union lawyer for the defense to counteract testimony which said that someone heard the "sound of zippers" and "whispering and little giggles;" or that someone had once gone to a gay bar.

Psychiatrists and sex therapists came to testify that a defendant was a "normal adolescent," and former

boyfriends of one woman were brought to court to say that they didn't think she was a homosexual. Several times the hearings centered on controversies about what actions could be considered "normal expressions of affection," and what actions were proof of homosexuality.

The women were tried separately, so that the charges appeared personal and not political. The intense focus on the defendants' private lives humiliated them as well as brought enormous pressure to bear on them and their families.

Petty Officer Tangela Gaskins, the first person tried, feared that her mother would sue for permanent custody of her 8-year-old son because of the charges. She issued a brief written statement which said: "I strongly resent the Navy's investigation. I do not intend to expose my private sex life any more than has already come out. But I feel a denial is in order." After her acquittal, she said that nobody should have to go through such a "kangaroo court system."

Three women after her went through the ordeal. One by one they were forced to stand up and to swear that they were not lesbians. The second defendant was also acquitted; the third and fourth were found guilty and discharged. Both women convicted of lesbian activity were black.

Then, in a surprise move, the Navy dropped charges against the remaining four defendants, ending the charade. According to the captain of the Norton Sound, "It would have been very difficult to substantiate" the remaining charges.

ACLU attorney Susan McGrievy felt that the publicity generated by the trials was an important factor in the charges being dropped. The Lesbian Rights Committee of the National Organization for Women had also conducted highly visible demonstrations in support of the defendants, stressing that the Navy was prying into private lives and publicizing the absurdity of the Navy's tactics.

Why was the Navy willing to conduct these hearings in a way which brought them this sort of publicity? There are some practical explanations for its choice of action. Two years ago, facing pressures from dropping enlistments and from affirmative action legislation, the Navy began its "Woman at Sea" program. Women were integrated into areas of the service which had been all male. But, there was not adequate planning and preparation for this shift in policy, so that officers often faced substantial daily difficulties as they were required to implement the new orders.

Physical accommodations were not prepared, and non-commissioned officers were given no training to modify their sexist attitudes or their resentment of the new women. It was as if the program were being set up for failure; on the Norton Sound, 50 inexperienced women were assigned to the ship at one time.

Then, things got even worse from the Navy's viewpoint. There were public charges of sexual harassment in all of the armed services and a directive came from the Pentagon ordering an immediate stop to such harassment, with disciplinary action to be taken toward those who did not comply. Each service had a different set of rules, and the military system felt it necessary to defend itself against all the charges, which they saw as primarily caused by the troublemaking women.

(continued on page 11)

Navy's Lesbian Trials —

(Continued from preceding page)

In addition, the Navy has a history of scapegoating gay personnel. Talking to women who were in the Navy during World War II, the Korean conflict, and during the '60s and '70s, I hear horrifying stories about the FBI peering through curtains and of people being drummed out of the service in disgrace for alleged homosexual activity.

In focusing on charges of lesbianism among the ship-board personnel, the Navy is reacting in its traditional way. Behind its actions is a heartfelt desire for the service to go back to being "the way it used to be."

These sexist and homophobic attitudes have been picked up and magnified by the press. In the newspapers, Navy women are described only in terms of their sexuality, and they are portrayed as squabbling and being eager to testify against each other. The picture drawn is one of undisciplined, sex-starved beings who have no place in the military.

The attack is not limited to lesbians. On September 4, 1980, a front page story (with pictures) in the *San Francisco Chronicle* was titled, "Sex in the Ranks." The women in this story were shown as involved with frantic sexual activity in co-ed barracks and with "sex and drugs." These heterosexual women were not portrayed as being as dangerous as the lesbians; instead, they emerged as foolish annoyances who didn't belong in the male world because they got in the way of serious business.

The racism displayed by both the Navy and the media is striking. The only pictures of defendants that I saw were of black women, and a quote from one woman referring to herself in racially derogative terms was given prominent display. That old image from slavery of black women as mindless and as dangerously sexual was served up to us once again.

All of the women, black and white, on the Norton Sound faced pressure from sexist stereotypes. According to Petty Officer Sharris Heusser, "The guys think there are only two types of females in the Navy. You're either there to serve the men — you're a whore — or else you're a queer."

It is essential that we look beyond the distorted images and see that the trials of these women do not stem from personal issues concerning individual deviance. The Navy's behavior seems to indicate a determined assault on hard-won affirmative action gains by using the issues of lesbianism and female sexuality to push women back into segregated roles.

We need to join with the ACLU and the Lesbian Rights Committee of NOW in denouncing the sexism, racism and homophobia which led to these 1980 witch trials. We can't allow the military system and the media to defeat all women by separating lesbian from heterosexual and black from white. The women of the U.S.S. Norton Sound deserve our support as they struggle with all the "stones piled on their chests" by a patriarchal and racist society.

—Kate Miller

'New Christian Right' —

(continued from page 3)

SALT II, the nuclear arms race, and the economy.

CV has targeted 36 liberal politicians for defeat; they put out a "Congressional Report Card" which grades politicians. As could be expected, liberals rate extremely low "grades" (i.e., Senator Cranston and Representatives Panetta and Dellums rate 0, 21, and 0, respectively) while conservatives do quite well (i.e., Senator Hayakawa rates 79 and Rep. Goldwater rates 100.)

CV's strategy is to reach as many people as possible by blitzing out the media. Funded by wealthy conservatives around the country, they use radio, television and film to spread their word, and hit millions of people with CV propaganda by use of highly sophisticated and effective computerized mailing services.

What is perhaps the most insidious and frightening aspect of Christian Voice is that they appeal to people's fears about a society which is characterized by tremendous levels of insecurity — economic, social and psychological — and rapid change.

This has particularly important implications for women. Many issues that are considered to be progressive by feminists — new options for women outside the home, relatively easier access to abortion (although even this has

been changing), the possibility to be defined as persons other than mothers and wives — are equated with moral decay by CV and are taken on as issues to be attacked.

It seems to me that the positions espoused by groups like Christian Voice primarily reflect the extent to which people — both men and women — are threatened by the release of women from traditional roles and the diminishing of patriarchal power over women.

I think that we should be adequately alerted to the presence of such an organization in our community.

Vicki Smith
Monterey



Graphic by Barbara Bastian



DEMETER

Demeter T-Shirts

informing women

☐ Small

☐ French Cut

☐ Regular

☐ Medium

☐ Large

☐ Tan

(with brown design)

☐ Black

(with white design)

DEMETER

Women's News of the Monterey Bay Area

is what it's all about

Demeter T-Shirts are now available with the Demeter goddess design on the front and our logo on the back. (The logo is unavailable on tank tops and optional on other shirts.) To order shirts by mail, please check appropriate boxes and send name, address, and check or money order for \$5 (plus 50 cents postage) to Demeter, P.O. Box 1661, Monterey, CA 93940.

Demeter's Role In Women's Sports

Demeter held an open meeting on Wednesday, September 10 at our new 17th Street office to discuss and determine what our role should be in sponsoring women's sports.

By "sponsoring" we mean that Demeter's name will be used and that we will organize teams and publicize events. Bringing teams together and encouraging the growth of individual women, both on an entry level and a more advanced level, will be Demeter's main concern.

Many women who joined Demeter teams had not participated in athletics since high school and were nervous about being inadequate or looking foolish. Demeter wants these women to know that they have a team to come to and be comfortable with along with being able to develop their skills.

Demeter's image on the playing field was also discussed at the meeting. It was agreed that Demeter teams should set examples of how feminism can and should work in a competitive environment. Women on the teams should be supportive and helpful of their team members and encourage other women's teams to do the same. Women working and playing together for the advancement of one another as well as the success of the team is our goal.

Coaching of Demeter teams will also be different from traditional coaching in that the players' viewpoints and opinions will be considered by the coach and team thus opening communications and making for a tighter team.

—Maureen McEvoy

Tampons and Toxic Shock

Last month *Demeter* printed a story linking the use of tampons to toxic shock syndrome. Toxic shock syndrome is caused by toxins manufactured by the staphylococcus aureus bacterium. The toxin damages capillaries, causing blood to leak into tissues, blood pressure to drop, and eventually shock to set in.

It is believed that the use of tampons contributes to the risk of developing the disease in more than one way. Because they dam the natural flow, tampons may create a good culture medium for the growth of bacteria. They can also cause abrasion of the lining of the vaginal wall, allowing *S. aureus* to enter the bloodstream.

A Wisconsin study estimated that three out of every 100,000 menstruating women will suffer from toxic shock and 5-15% will die from it. In August of this year two young San Francisco Bay Area women, 15-year-old Diana Silva and 17-year-old Lesa Toby, died of the disease.

Male researchers seem to insist on denying the importance of informing women of the risk. Dr. Bruce Dan of the U.S. Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, which first identified the disease last June, claimed "The risk is very small and it seems unwarranted at this time to recommend that use of tampons be discontinued."

Director of public relations for Proctor and Gamble contends that "The level of risk doesn't justify any warning label or restriction of sale." Linda Imboden, a Northern California woman who faces the loss of her fingertips to the disease and has recently filed suit against Proctor and Gamble, manufacturer of Rely tampons,

stated, "If I had known about the danger, I definitely would not have used tampons."

While researchers claim that no association between any particular brand or type of tampon and toxic shock has been found, the occurrence of this syndrome has apparently increased recently in response to the new material composition of tampons. The super absorbent qualities of these cellulose materials often lead to excess drying of the vagina, contributing to microscopic laceration and even clearly visible ulcerous lesions.

Women who choose not to use tampons do have a safer, convenient, economical alternative. During the past few years, the idea of women using natural sea sponges instead of tampons during menstruation has been spreading around the country. It is not a new idea — women have been using sponges throughout history until the advent of the sanitary tampon during the convenience era of the 50's.

Sponges are free of bleach, asbestos, perfumes and other chemicals often found in tampons. They are moistened before insertion so they do not dehydrate or abrade the vagina or cervix. Women generally rinse out menstrual sponges more frequently than they change tampons so it is believed by some that sponges don't contribute to the growth of bacteria by providing the good culture medium that tampons do. A sponge will usually last for several months.

Information on how to use and care for menstrual sponges is available from the Santa Cruz Women's Health Center, 250 Locust St., Santa Cruz.

—Diana Skiles

The Lesbian Path

The Lesbian Path, edited by Margaret Cruikshank. Angel Press, Monterey, CA, 1980.

This sensitive and effective collection of first-person narratives by the usually silent women of our society shares those rare aspects of life that are more often heard between friends in intimate conversation.

With isolation bringing and perpetuating the doubts and fears each lesbian must know, hearing these unique experiences provides yet another sounding board. Some more difficult, some exciting; all interesting, these

women have given of their lives that others may draw strength and support. Take out the mystery, add real-life characters and lesbians are your neighbors, employees, relatives, friends.

The stories are gathered under such headings as: Young Lesbians, Finding Ourselves, Struggles, Lesbians and Literature (providing referrals to other available sources), Mothers, Public Lives, and Adventures.

We've heard from some of these women before: Alix Dobkin, Susan Griffin, Pat Parker, yet most of them are unknown writers and their stories shine to light a path so others get a glimpse of a world most often feared

and not understood.

At the end of one story, *Hudson Bay Journal*, Judith Niemi speaks of how six "dykes" made a lengthy and hazardous canoe trip: "We didn't decide things by majority, of course, and often we didn't even use consensus. We simply knew who to listen to. And if the usual voice of caution, or caring, or whatever we needed wasn't heard, I knew one of the rest of us would say what was needed."

These collective voices are sharing what has been needed. Enjoyable, informative reading; unthreatening to anyone. Invaluable to those who tread the tricky *Lesbian Path*.

—bb bastian

United Nations Global Gathering

Listen to the Women in Copenhagen

(Editor's Note: Patricia Schroeder of Santa Cruz attended the United Nations Mid-Decade Conference on Women and its companion meeting, Non-Governmental Women's Organization Forum, in Copenhagen, Denmark. Approximately 80 people donated to her trip, which she covered with tape recorder and camera. Here is her account of the conference.)

Over a month has passed since the United Nations Global Gathering of Women in Copenhagen. Ten thousand women spoke and wrote millions of words which are now filtering into local plans of action around the world.

I remember well that thousands of women at the conference spoke English as a second or third language, or not at all. English is the official language of the United Nations. There were only a handful of interpreters at the NGO Forum. Women mobilized and set up a pool of volunteer interpreters. One way or another, the non-English speaking women put their thoughts into English in order to communicate. Using our eye contact, our body language, and our dedication, we did an excellent job of communicating.

As a white feminist from the Western world, and with mother-tongue English, I began to listen and to listen carefully to the women of developing countries, also known as Third World countries.

Flo Kennedy, an incredible, outstanding black feminist from New York, informed me that "for the purpose of our interview, First World will mean what most people call Third World. We outnumber the whites. Negro used to be the catch word. The point is, who decided we are the Third World?"

I don't know who decided to call the majority of the world's population Third World. I am well aware that this term has more than caught on, it is used as fact! Developing world is another well used term, and it indicates a lack of technology, and the economics that accompany limited technology.

The following are quotations from the words spoken by women in Copenhagen. Imagine these words as women's voices if you can, as the Third World women of the developing world came to the forefront in Copenhagen.

Roxanne Ortiz, Cheyenne: "There is

a tremendous distrust here of American women, and this seems to have surprised and shocked many of them. The reality of the exploitation in the day to day world lives of most people in the developing world seems to have escaped them."

Marie Angelique Savane, President of the Association of African Women for Research and Development: "I think we would like to challenge many of the concepts and assumptions of Western development planning . . . For instance, there is a question of training women in 'income generating activities,' forgetting that many of the women they are talking about are already overburdened in their double role as wives and mothers working in subsistence agriculture . . . We women have the answers to the problems we are facing. We are the key to our own development."

Domitila Barrios de Chungara, leader of the Bolivian Miner's Wives Committee: "What can we do? I think it is very difficult for most Western people to know what we are feeling. We have fought, we have organized, built a revolution: immediately the government is changed for another . . . you ask why? Because it is a country of riches . . . they use science and technology to take riches from us but they are not using it to improve the conditions in which we work. (During the first week of the conference there was a military coup against the Bolivian government.)"

Peggy Antrobus of Jamaica: "I say 'so-called' developed countries because as far as women are concerned, there are very few 'developed countries.' Does equal access to education provide women with the education they want? Education that takes the spirit out of them? Would not more jobs expose women to greater sexual harassment, more women working in sub-human conditions? We are trying to find a feminist concept of development."

Nawal El Sadaawi, Egyptian doctor and writer: "We cannot talk about equality when most women live in poverty where there is no pure water, little food, where they work hard all day and bear children, many who die in the first year. We cannot speak about equality when natural resources of

developing countries are being exploited and sucked out by imperialist powers and multinationals . . . that women in such situations don't have the luxury, time and energy to speak about the more trivial aspects of life."

Akram Hariri, leader of the Iranian delegation and head of recreational activities of the city of Karaj: "Yes, we can also learn much here about how women in other parts of the world are active. Many women in Eastern countries have not worked hard. We can learn, from Western women how hard they work. In the West, women are really slaves in the hands of men — they don't know it yet."

Terry Kantai, head of Women's Bureau of Kenya: "The idea (of the Women's Bureau) is to insure women's place in development, though we probably do not have the necessary support for such an understanding.

"The workload of African women is so heavy. They have primitive tools. They are so bogged down with the problems of food, wood, clothes, water, finding ways to send children to school that it is almost impossible for them to think of other things, of literacy or family welfare in the broader sense. Women are tied down to the earth."

As to the Women's Conference:

"It is very important that women should be exposed to this kind of Forum. Only by meeting on this ground will women have the courage and confidence to fight. And it is encouraging to see that other people are trying to do the same as us."

Eugene RokhayaAwe, Senegalese journalist: "We, women, can avoid a split among ourselves, provided we are prepared to question our own vision of ourselves, to accept that we have differences but we are all worthy of respect, and to be willing to learn from each other in order to better understand each other.

"Why, then, do women reproduce among themselves the very perspectives that men have of them? Because they live in this world, in the reality of rivalries and conflicts which conditions them.

"May we change this reality if we can."

—Patricia Schroeder

Beauty Queen

*Beauty queen, now hidden by your "duties,"
safe in the role of "straight,"
you run from the love of your sisters.*

Do you think I can't tell?

*I'm not blind to your struggle,
I see pain in your forced smile,
your fight to live a lie,
to reject your sisters love
is more than obvious
to me.*

*The Goddess loves to see a freed womyn,
free from "hey babe, git me a brew,"
"I though I told you over easy,"
"have a cigar, I had a baby."*

*Fear of your freedom,
hatred of your power,
the Goddess within you,
is the only power "the man" has over you.*

*Fight his fears,
break his bonds,
ignore his threats,
take your power and let yourself love;
be a dyke,
a witch,*

*an uppity womyn,
be yourself,
be your own lover,
be free,
but don't be his "little womyn,"
you deserve better.*

Therese Marie Scott

Et Tu Society

*If not for her sisters, she would have died
unknown, unloved, invisible.*

*As my anger overtakes my self control
I picture heads rolling.*

*Her room, complete with attendant and view,
holds her captive, she who needs so
desperately*

to be freed;

*death in quiet peace in contrast to a
life of pain and struggle,
could this be too much to ask for?*

*Wearing her breakfast 'till lunch,
her back blending with the chair,
a losing battle begins and ends,
her body takes the loss in the form of
quiet moans.*

Feeble twitches.

*Drained of her powers,
her stature once bowed by age,
tempered by her gracefulness,
is held captive in a bed of unrelenting pain.*

*She asked for a return to her mother earth
that would fit the life she lived with her;
of all that she asked for,
she was given,
"the proper care."*

Therese Marie Scott

*i want to hold you
and tell you
that i need you
but
i am wild
and my mind withholds
that way down deep
in mystery
i am sweet*

*i long to kiss you
on top
of the farthest star
and let you fall back
to these earthly arms
but
i am just a woman
and my dreams withhold
hoping
that someone will know
that way down deep
in my mystery
i am sweet*

anon

the earth rolled over

*i buried my head between your thighs
and the earth rolled over
i reached inside our love exploded
and the earth rolled over
we stretched our wings when we could not fly
and the earth rolled over
we shared the work the pain the strain
and the earth rolled over
we stretched the silence when we could not meet
and the earth rolled over
i've noticed how warm you made the night
i told the earth you've gone
and the earth rolled over*

bb bastian

*wing-heeled runner
your golden hair of summer
falls soft upon my face like the wind*

*your smile, a bird flown
through the air of what we've known
is hidden from the stranger
as you bend*

*if running through the zebra night
would feel forever home
i'd never bid you take a moment more
before you roam
but rather hear the silent call
that runs inside your head
turn over, close my eyes
let go
and go to sleep instead*

bb bastian

Classifieds

Classified ads cost \$1 for 3 lines. Send copy along with payment to Demeter, P.O. Box 1661, Monterey, CA 93940. Ads must reach us by Oct. 13 for inclusion in the November issue.

THE OPEN BOOK, a bookstore featuring women's titles, is now open at 1184 F Forest, PG.

NON-SEXIST and Feminist Counseling. Individual appointments. Diana Case, M.A. 375-6142.

TYPESETTING — Fast, accurate, very competitive rates. Call The Exchange, 845 Wave, Monterey, 372-7055.

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KAZU 90.3 FM has wonderful women's programming on Thursdays from 12:30-3 p.m. and on Sundays from 1-4 p.m. Be sure to tune in.

NEED TO FIND two people to share my house. Two rooms available, one at \$150, one at \$175. Includes all utilities. Call Barbara evenings 649-0757, days 649-0451.

Law Offices Of
Sheri L. Perlman
11 W. Laurel Dr., Suite 121
Salinas, CA
443-1056

THE NEW 17th St. Women's Professional Building will hold an open house/Halloween celebration Oct. 31, 4-8 p.m. Everyone is invited.

PLAN TO attend the Women's Fair, Oct. 25 at Hartnell's Performing Arts Theater, Salinas. Proceeds go to the Salinas Community Women's Center.

DEMETER PRODUCTIONS will present June Millington in concert Saturday, Oct. 4 at 8 p.m. in the Monterey Peninsula College Music Hall. Tickets are \$3.50 in advance or \$4 at the door and are available at The Open Book, PG; Do Re Mi Records, Carmel; Cymbaline Records in Santa Cruz and the Demeter office.

KAZU 90.3 FM in Pacific Grove is having a rummage-bake sale on Saturday, Oct. 18 at Caledonia Park. Contributions are tax deductible and should be brought to KAZU studios at 582 Lighthouse Ave. (above Sproutz Reitz) in downtown Pacific Grove. For more information, call 375-3082 or 659-3752.

All Things Considered

By Janie Forrest

I certainly wouldn't be telling you anything new if I were to inform you that women looking for "romantic bliss" have been monetarily exploited for decades. Ever since the development of mass media, manufacturers having a vested interest in our money have come up with increasingly unique schemes for getting us to spend it — all under the guise of attracting men.

We have been told in no uncertain terms that a woman seeking male attention must allot a sizable portion of her income to such accoutrements as cosmetics, beautiful clothes, perfume, deodorants, creams and lotions, stylish haircuts, reducing aids and special "feminine" razors. (God only knows what romantic disasters we might thrust upon ourselves if we attempt to chop off "unwanted" hair with bulky men's razors!)

In spite of the millions of dollars women invest every year on this crap, an enormous number are still woefully complaining about their lack of success in meeting the man of their dreams. As a result, a new type of monetarily exploitive industry has sprung up which offers women a more direct attack for finding their mate. By this, I am referring to the arrangement of actual circumstances in which, for a fee, a woman can meet a man in an environment where ostensibly it is easy for her to succeed.

One such example is the "Singles Love Cruise." They are easy to find — just look in the travel section of your favorite Sunday newspaper and you'll notice an assortment of intriguing ads for fun-filled days and nights under a seductive tropical moon.

The set-up is simple: for only a few hundred dollars more than it costs for a conventional cruise, you can book yourself a reservation on a singles-only charter voyage.

I know many women who have in-

vested a year's savings for this privilege, and the stories they've related to me afterwards have all been remarkably similar.

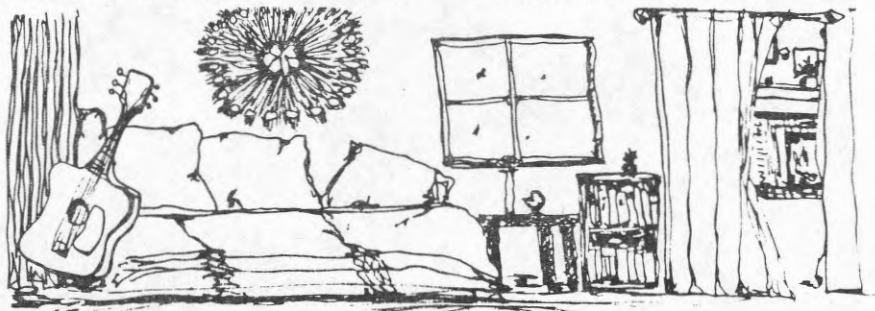
First, they have all reported that the demographic composition of the passenger group has been well over 90% female. Those few women who were lucky enough to strike up a friendship with a male crewperson seemed to have an acceptable time, while the remaining majority had to settle for hot, muggy nights with a glass of wine and a good book.

Unfortunately, women seem to be easy targets for these sorts of gimmicks. In Albuquerque, New Mexico, where I used to live, there was an absolutely brilliant real estate scam being perpetuated. Cheaply constructed motel-type apartment buildings were constructed and advertised as singles-only complexes. Then twice the going rent was charged, and they filled up almost overnight with single women. It was easy, it was quick, and it was profitable.

And there are other high-priced ways for women to meet men. They can join singles clubs, sign up for singles ski tours, buy a share in singles condos in Tahoe, or attend a singles weekend at resort hotels where hardly anybody comes home with anything more than a migraine and a depleted bank account. And let us not forget the insidious resurgence of the computer dating industry! The list goes on and on.

My single women friends who are seeking a relationship with a man often ask for my advice on how to meet them. Well I don't claim to know the full answer to that question as yet, but I do feel that I positively know what not to do. My general rule of thumb is: "If it costs money, it won't work."

All things considered, at least that's a starting point.



A Continuing Series

Feminism — A Personal Perspective

Arriving at a feminist perspective is a profoundly personal experience. The process forces one to re-examine many unquestioned customs and relationships. Feminism helps women realize they have a right to make many more choices than society commonly permits. Through Demeter we hope in some way to reach every woman. Each month a woman will be writing a chronicle of the process she went through in becoming a feminist. We encourage others to send in their own accounts of their emergence as feminists.

I was going to look the word "feminism" up in the dictionary — what it means — and, instead, I started to think about when I first heard the word "feminism." What I flashed on was that the word came into my vocabulary at a time when I first identified my support going to and from women.

I was living in Los Angeles. It was 1971. It was a very important time for me — a time when I was looking at the meaning of struggling for power. I had just been through a situation where I realized that I was making it just so far on my job. I had gone as far as I could in my career and then, because of the inequality of power, I would either be fired or would feel the need to quit.

I was the nurse and then there was the doctor — the supreme authority. I had already identified myself as a Lesbian in 1968. I felt an emotional attachment to women, being supported emotionally by women. All my needs were met by women, but, on the job, I knew nothing about feminism and I would avoid discussions on the subject, because I wasn't sure what feminism meant.

When I finally began to deal with the issue of feminism, I was going through a crisis, questioning power; I was questioning my ability to compromise with the patriarchy over women's struggles for control over their lives.



Moving?

Moved recently? If you have a change of address, please notify us at P.O. Box 1661, Monterey, 93940. The post office will not forward *Demeter*, so if you want to continue receiving the Peninsula's only feminist newsmagazine, please keep us informed of your correct address.

A group of women in Los Angeles formed a gay community services center. It was there that I began to explore my identity in the context of a lesbian support group; I felt like I was going home. It was here that someone asked me if I were a feminist and I was able to safely explore what feminism meant and to see action behind the defining of the word, to see women supporting women, women having the power to make change in their lives.

I want to be with women who dare to dream. I want to be with women who support women — not with those who talk about supporting women — but with women whose backs are there, whose sweat is there.

Feminists are working women, working for change. I see that evidence in the community here in Monterey, women being strong and finding what they need. I would like to see women voice their feminism with renewed pride, taking away the apologies and fear, joining together, forming collectives, seeking alternatives to the established patriarchy.

It is time to be about my mother's business — it is my business, too.

—Teramota

(Editor's Note: This perspective is the result of a conversation between the author and Sandra McKee of the Demeter staff. We are willing to help any reader with her perspective. Drop by our office or give us a call.)



Graphic by Gerrica Connolly

—Women Speak Out—



We live in a masculine society owned and operated by a masculine power structure and — just as in a black and white society — the ruling elite will define the reality, even the identity of those whom it rules. What women think of women is pretty much what they have learned from men to think of women.

—Kate Millet